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Message Text

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50
ACTION SPC-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 NIC-01

AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 SCEM-02 /242 W
---------- 062681
R 111630Z SEP 73
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3160
INFO USINT ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, TS
SUBJECT: BOURGUIBA'S ATTENDANCE AT NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA MADE LENGTHY SPEECH SEPT 7 AT ALGIERS SUMMIT WHICH CARRIED DIRECT ON MEDIA HERE. IN IT HE PROPOSED CREATING MAGHREB COMMUNITY; QUESTIONED PRESENT-DAY INTERPRETATION OF NON-ALIGNMENT; CAUTIONED THIRD WORLD ON DETENTE BETWEEN SUPERPOWERS; AND DISCUSSED NEED FOR MONETARY REFORM. BOURGUIBA'S SPEECH APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN PATTERNED FOR HIS AUDIENCE, WITH SHARP CRITICISM OF SUPERPOWER ACTIONS. ON RETURN TO TUNIS, BOURGUIBA SAID CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHT FOR HIM WAS HIS MEETING WITH BOUMEDIENE, QADHAFI AND OULD DADDAH, WHO HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO FORM FEDERATION (ITTIHAD). REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHAT WILL FLOW FROM THIS AGREEMENT BUT WE BELIEVE ACCENT SHOULD BE PLACED ON EXPRESSION "IN PRINCIPLE".
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END SUMMARY.

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1. ONE AND ONE-HALF HOUR SPEECH BY PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA WAS TRANSMITTED DIRECT ON RADIO AND TV HERE ON SEPT 7 AND REBROADCAST LATER SAME EVENING. SPEECH, WRITTEN IN FRENCH, CONTAINS LONG, INVOLVED PASSAGES AND NOT AS TERSE AND WELL-COMPOSED AS HIS WRITTEN SPEECHES USUALLY ARE. BELIEVE FINAL TEXT, WHICH PROBABLY WRITTEN BY MIN INFO AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS KLIBI, WAS EDITED, PERHAPS BY FONMIN MASMOUDI, PRIOR TO DELIVERY, WHICH EXPLAINS DIFFICULTY BOURGUIBA HAD IN READING SOME PARTS. OTHERWISE BOURGUIBA APPEARED IN TOP FORM ON TV. FOLLOWING WERE KEY SUBJECTS IN SPEECH.

2. MAGHREB - SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF DEVELOPING COMMUNITY BETWEEN ALGERIA, TUNISIA AND LIBYA UNDER CURRENT LEADERSHIP. HE HAD STRONG WORDS OF PRAISE FOR BOTH QADHAIF AND BOUMEDIENE. LATER IN SPEECH MOROCCO MENTIONED WITH MAURETANIA AS OTHER MAGHREB COUNTRIES WITHWHICH TUNISIA HAS COMMON DESTINY.

3. NON-ALIGNMENT - QUESTIONED UTILITY OF NON-ALIGNED GATHERING AT PRESENT TIME AND DEFINITION OF NON-ALIGNED STATE. MADE INDIRECT REFERENCES TO INCLUSION OF EGYPT AND INDIA AS PRIME EXAMPLES OF CHANGES IN CONCEPT OF NON-ALIGNMENT SINCE FIRST BELGRADE CONFERENCE. HE SAID NON-ALIGNED SPIRIT WAS HURT WHEN COUNTRIES BLASTED U.S. AT SAME TIME THEY WERE MAKING A PACT WITH USSR OR WHEN OTHERS CRITICIZED SOVIET ARMS SHIPMENTS TO ARAB COUNTRIES WHILESAYING NOTHING ABOUT AMERICAN ARMS DELIVERIES TO ISRAEL. IN SUBSEQUENT INTERVIEW WITH ITALIAN PAPER, BOURGUIBA SAID HE WOULD ATTEND
NO MORE "NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCES"; ONLY THOSE OF THIRD WORLD OR UNDERDEVELOPED WORLD.

4. DETENTE- CITED DANGERS FOR THIRD WORLD IN PRESENT PERIOD OF DETENTE BETWEEN SUPERPOWERS. QUESTIONED WHETHER DETENTE WAS NOT BEING REALIZED TO DETRIMENT OF THIRD WORLD. CALLED IT COLD, INHUMAN AND CYNICAL MACHINATION. NON-ALIGNED NATIONS HAVE ROLE IN THIS CONTEXT TO GIVE HUMAN DIMENSION TO THIS PROCESS. SUPERPOWERS SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO SET UP WORLD DIRECTORATE TO CONTROL WORLD'S RESOURCES AND FURTHER OWN DEVELOPMENT TO DETRIMENT OF THIRD WORLD.

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5. UN AND VETO POWER - TIME TO DEVISE A NEW PROCEDURE TO REPLACE CURRENT USE OF VETO POWER. IF VETO POWER CANNOT BE SUPPRESSED, IT SHOULD BE MORE EQUITABLY DISTRIBUTED AND LIMITED TO CERTAIN CASES AND CERTAIN SPECIFIED CONDITIONS. CITED CASE OF ISRAEL'S MOCKING UN IDEAL AS SHOCKING AND "BEHAVIOR OF GREAT POWERS IN ITS REGARD IS MORE SHOCKING".

6. MONETARY REFORM - U.S. IS IN STATE OF INSOLVENCY BECAUSE

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IT HELPED ITS CREDITORS TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC RECOVERY RIVALLING ITS OWN ECONOMIC POWER. SYSTEM WHICH FORMERLY WORKED TO BENEFIT OF THESE CREDITORS HAS NOW REACHED EXCESSIVE PROPORTIONS AND THUS HAS BEEN DENOUNCED AS INOPERABLE. OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES WHICH NOW PILING UP MONETARY RESERVES IN EXCHANGE FOR OIL COULD ACCUMULATE SO MUCH MONEY THAT IT MIGHT NOT BE HONORED BY ISSUING COUNTRY. BETTER FOR THESE COUNTRIES TO INVEST IN THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES THAT ARE SERIOUS ABOUT DEVELOPMENT. THIRD WORLD SHOULD PARTICIPATE ON EQUAL FOOTING IN WORKING OUT NEW MONETARY STRUCTURE. (COMMENT: THIS IS ONE OF MORE CONFUSED AND OBSCURE PORTIONS OF SPEECH THAT BOURGUIBA HAD DIFFICULTY READING.)

7. ORGANIZATION OF NON-ALIGNED - NOTING THAT "SPIRIT OF ALGIERS" LIKELY NOT TO BE REPEATED AGAIN, CALLED FOR ESTABLISHING A MINIMUM OF ORGANIZATION TO CARRY OUT DECISIONS OF CONFERENCE PARTICULARLY ON ECONOMIC SIDE. STRESSED THAT ORGANIZATION SHOULD REMAIN SMALL AND UNBUREAUCRATIC.

8. AT AIRPORT CEREMONY ON RETURN TO TUNIS SEPT 10 BOURGUIBA REMARKED THAT HIGHLIGHT OF CONFERENCE WAS HIS MEETING WITH BOUMEDIENE, QADHAFI AND OULD DADDAH. HE SAID THEY HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO FEDERATION (ITTIHAD) AND SOME RESULTS OF THIS WOULD BE SEEN IN COMING MONTHS.

9. COMMENT: TUNISIAN PRESS HAS BEEN TRUMPETING BOURGUIBA SPEECH AS HIGHLIGHT OF NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE. BOURGUIBA HIMSELF OBVIOUSLY PLEASED WITH HIS EFFORT. HIS REFERENCE IN SPEECH TO DEVELOPING COMMUNITY BETWEEN TUNISIA, ALGERIA AND LIBYA, FOLLOWED BY HIS ALLUSION AT CARTHAGE AIRPORT UPON HIS RETURN TO FEDERATION WITH ALGERIA, LIBYA AND MAURETANIA, IS FURTHER EVIDENCE THAT TUNISIA IS INTERESTED IN PULLING QADHAFI AWAY FROM CAIRO AXIS INTO SOME FORM OF MAGHREBIAN GROUPING. HE
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HIMSELF HAS SAID MANY TIMES, HOWEVER, THAT UNITY BETWEEN ARAB STATES IS LONG-TERM PROPOSITION AND WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE OTHERWISE IN THIS INSTANCE. INCLUSION OF MAURETANIA IN BOURGUIBA'S MOST RECENT REFERENCE TO FEDERATION SEEMS TO RUN COUNTER TO TUNISIA'S CURRENT INCLINATION TO CONCENTRATE ON BILATERAL TIES WITH ITS IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORS. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT WHILE BOURGUIBA USED ARABIC WORD ITTIHAD (USUALLY TRANSLATED AS FEDERATION) IN HIS AIRPORT REMARKS, LOCAL FRENCH PRESS IN THIS CASE TRANSLATED ITTIHAD AS CONFEDERATION.
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